



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
Division of Spill Prevention and Response  
Prevention and Emergency Response Program  
**SITUATION REPORT**



## **M/V *Devon* Grounding**

**SITREP # 1**

**SPILL #: 14269913401**

**TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION:** 5:00 p.m. May 14, 2014

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Sam Barging, Inc.

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** Approximately 10 miles east of Dillingham on the Nushagak River (approximate Lat/Long: 59°01.84 N, 158°11.67 W)

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** The tug vessel *Devon*, used for barging, encountered a submerged object in the Nushagak River at approximately 12:33 a.m. on May 14, 2014. The U.S. Coast Guard reported the incident to ADEC at 4:18 a.m.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** Sam Barging estimated that approximately 5,000 to 5,500 gallons of diesel fuel were discharged from the vessel after the grounding.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The 7,400-gallon capacity fuel tank was breached when the vessel encountered an unknown submerged object in the river.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Remaining fuel in the tank was transferred into a void space in the vessel. A void space is defined as an enclosed space external to a cargo tank or other than a hold space, ballast space, oil fuel tank, cargo pump room or any space in normal use by personnel. Arrangements are being made to remove the vessel from the water tomorrow.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** Two Coast Guard responders from Sector Anchorage and a representative from the Dillingham Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) have responded to the incident and are assessing potential environmental impacts. Three overflights were conducted today: one morning flight by the Coast Guard C-130 and mid-morning flights by ADF&G and the Alaska State Troopers. The Coast Guard observed light sheen on the river during their overflight. By the time ADF&G and the Alaska State Troopers conducted their overflights, the sheen was no longer visible along the river. Sam Barging's insurance company contracted the Meredith Management Group, Inc. to manage and oversee any mitigation actions. ADF&G has sent out notices to fishermen in the area through the local radio station advising them of the incident.

ADEC is monitoring the ongoing response from the Anchorage office.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The shorelines of the Nushagak River are primarily comprised of sheltered tidal flats and brackish marshes. The Nushagak River supports all species of Pacific salmon. Waterfowl may be nesting along the shorelines of the river and foraging in the river and tidal areas. Beluga Whales and Harbor Seals may be present in Nushagak Bay. Steller sea lions, and Steller's eiders are Endangered Species Act-listed species that

may be present in the area. Archaeological sites may be present in the area. There have been no reports of oiled wildlife.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The vessel will be removed from the water for damage assessment. Sam Barging will submit a temporary repair plans to the Coast Guard and ADEC for review. ADF&G will conduct one more overflight tomorrow to assess for any environmental impacts. The Coast Guard will broadcast a message to mariners to advise them of potential hazards associated with unknown submerged objects in the river.

ADEC will continue to monitor the situation and activate resources as needed.

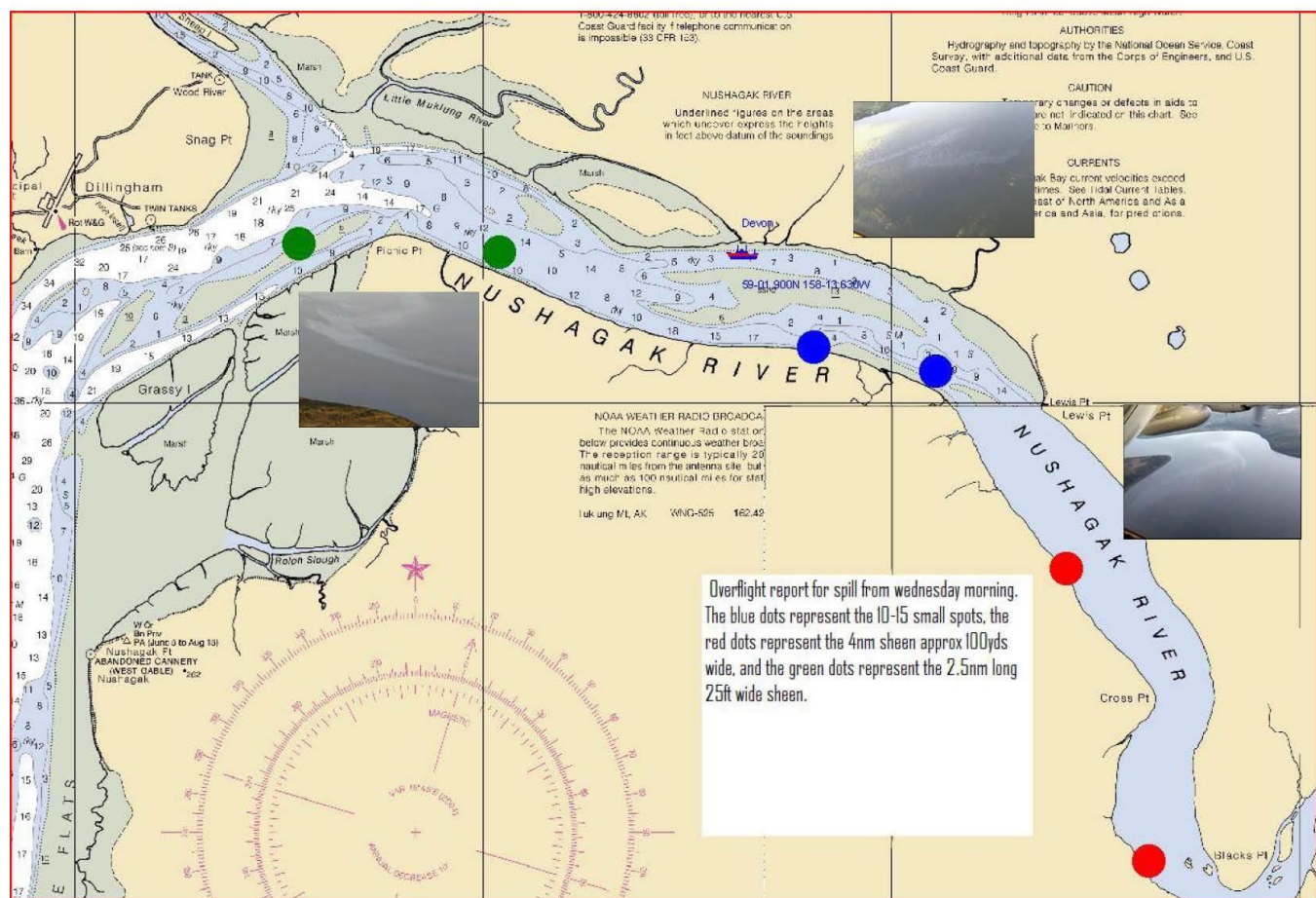
**WEATHER:** Today: partly cloudy; high 66°, winds NNW 5-10 mph. Tonight: scattered clouds; lows to 43° winds light and variable. Tomorrow: sunny; highs to 70; winds SW at 5-10 mph.

#### UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Bob Flint, Meredith Management Group, Inc.

SOSC: Steve Russell, ADEC

FOSC: Captain Paul Mehler III, FOSC



Map of the incident location and overflight photos from the Coast Guard C-130 overflight, May 14, 2014. (Photo/U.S. Coast Guard)

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION:** As the situation warrants.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gay Harpole, ADEC (907) 269-7688

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:** This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor's office, Senator Begich's office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other state agencies. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

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